* State Government have appointed senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/environment clearances etc.
* Process of issue of land acquisition notifications has been streamlined.
* To expedite the construction of Road overbridges, an officer of the Railways has been posted to National Highways Authority of India to coordinate with Railways.
* Learning from the past experiences DPR preparation exercise has been streamlined.
* The bid documents have also been standardized with a view io bringing in uniformity and clarity in bidding and contract administration.
* Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) are being reviewed by experts to ensure that all aspects of the projects are duly covered.
* DPR consultants are asked to incorporate the modifications and changes suggested by the experts.
* Wherever the consultants have been found wanting in performance, deterrent action is taken in the form of warning (for minor omission), suspension of short listing with NHA! and debarment for a prescribed period.

Improvment of National Highways in Jharkhand

517. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for improvement/construction of National Highways in Jharkhand approved since 2000-01, including those for which approval of Central Government has been pending;

(b) the details of length of National Highways undergone augmentation/construction during the period since 2000-01 indicating project cost *vis-a-vis* cost incurred and identity of national Highways in the State;

(c) the current status of the projects which are pending, if any;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time-schedule proposed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) 89 number of projects for improvement/construction of National Highways in Jharkhand have been approved so far since 2000-01. Further to this, 13 proposals have been received from the State Government of Jharkhand during the current financial year.

(b) A Statement indicating length of National Highways taken up for augmentation/construction since 2000-01 indicating project cost and identity of National Highway in the State of Jharkhand is annexed (See below). A total of Rs. 755.83 Crore has been spent on development of various National Highways in the State of Jharkhand since 2000-01 including an expenditure of Rs. 613.20 Crore on 4-laning of NH-2 under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase I. The total cost of sanctioned works on National Highways since 2000-01 is Rs. 986.62 Crore.

(c) and (d) the pending proposals will be considered for sanction depending upon availability of funds and *inter-se* priority of projects.

(e) The ongoing sanctioned projects, including those recently sanctioned, are at various stages of implementation including tender award. These projects are targeted for completion by March, 2007.

Statement

Length of National Highways taken up for augmentation/construction since 2000-01 *indicating project cost and identity of National Highway in the State of Jharkhand*

SI. No.	NHNo.	Length covered (in km.)	No. of Project sanctioned	Total cost of the (in Rs. crore)
1.	2	149.25	2	798.70
2.	6	21.10	2	6.26
3.	23	160.39	19	54.12
4.	31	16.00	2	3.07
5.	32	22.00	5	7.09

1	2	3	4	**5**
6.	33	245.00	35	69.36
7.	75	41.00	4	9.69
8.	78	26.93	3	6.49
9.	80	47.80	6	7.42
10.	99	35.60	3	8.56
11.	100	77.00	5	14.75
12.	Misc./more than one NH		3	1.11
TOTA		842.07	89	986.62

Note: Projects sanctioned for National Highway No. 2 relate to development of road to 4-lane standards.

Works on highways under NHDP

† 518. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of nearly 513 kilometre stretch of East-West Corridor along Bihar border under National Highway Development Project has been put on hold.

(b) whether it is a fact that expected width of the National Highway Nos. 28 and 57 has not yet been demarcated;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is proposal to link these highways with a four-lane way from Muzaffarpur to Patna; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.